

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

U.S. Application of: Hironori SUMITOMO and Koji FUJIWARA  
For: COUNTING SYSTEM AND COUNTING  
METHOD  
U.S. Serial No.: 10/698,707  
Confirmation No.: 1922  
Filed: October 31, 2003  
Group Art Unit: 2878  
Examiner: To Be Assigned

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Name of Applicant, Assignee, or Registered  
Representative



Signature

FEBRUARY 12, 2004

Date of Signature

Dear Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

In compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants wish to bring the following items to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of each document is enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

No representation is made, and no representation is intended, that more relevant material does not exist, or that the order of presentation of this material in any way reflects


its relative pertinence. The references cited below are not intended to constitute an admission of any kind.

- (1) Radford et al, U.S. Patent No. 6,600,509 B1, issued July 29, 2003;
- (2) Japanese Unexamined Published Application No. (A) 8-161453 (KANO YUKIO et al), published June 21, 1996; and
- (3) Japanese Unexamined Published Application No. (A) 10-009815 (ASADA NORIHIRO et al), published January 16, 1998.

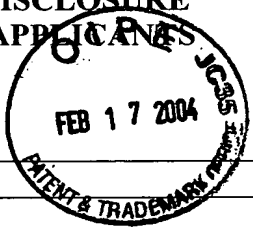
As this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed prior to the receipt of the first Office Action, no fee is required. If it should be determined that a fee is required, please charge any required fee (other than the issue fee) during the pendency of this application to Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP's Deposit Account No. 18-1260. Please credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 18-1260.

Respectfully submitted,

By: \_\_\_\_\_

  
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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>				<b>Complete if Known</b>				
				Application Number	10/698,707			
				Confirmation No.	1922			
				Filing Date	October 31, 2003			
				First Inventor	Hironori SUMITOMO et al			
				Group Art Unit	2878			
				Examiner Name	To Be Assigned			
Attorney Docket No.	15162/06270							
Sheet	1	of	1	<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>				
Examiner Initials	Cite #	DOCUMENT NUMBER	C O D E	PATENTEE	ISSUE DATE (mm/dd/yy)	CLASS	SUB CLASS	Filing Date if Appropriate
	(1)	6,600,509	B1	Radford et al	07/29/03	348	143	
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>								
Examiner Initials		O F F I C E	NUMBER	C O D E	PUBLICATION DATE (mm/dd/yy)	TRANSLATION Yes          No		
	(2)	JP	8-161453	A	06/21/96	ABSTRACT ONLY		
	(3)	JP	10-009815	A	01/16/98	ABSTRACT ONLY		
<b>NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS</b>								
Examiner Initials	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published							
Examiner Signature					Date Considered			

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with the next communication to applicant.